

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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July 12, 2013

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

To:

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

## STATUS REPORT ON THE HAULED WATER INITIAL STUDY PLAN

This is to provide you with a status report since our last report on December 10, 2012, regarding the Board approved motion by Supervisor Antonovich, instructing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in conjunction with the Hauled Water Task Force (Task Force) to: (1) identify funding and direct the Task Force to develop a work plan and estimated timeline for the issuance of a Request for Proposals for purposes of retaining a consultant to prepare an Initial Study, and, if necessary, an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analyzing the potential environmental impacts of the draft "hauled water policy;" and (2) directed County Counsel, in consultation with the Task Force, to draft a proposed ordinance for the Board's consideration that amends applicable provisions of the Los Angeles County Code to provide for a single-family residential hauled water use policy, which incorporates the provisions of the draft "hauled water policy" and the information provided to the public by the Task Force in its Response to Public Comments document, subject to any amendments made by the Board, and as informed by the required CEQA analysis.

The Task Force, which consists of Board Deputies from the Third and Fifth Supervisorial Districts, and representatives from the Departments of Public Health (DPH), Regional Planning (DRP), Public works (DPW), County Counsel, and the CEO, convened in January 2013 and March 2013, to discuss and finalize the work plans, as outlined in the CEO's December 10, 2012 status report, for purposes of retaining a consultant to prepare an Initial Study. In support of this effort, the Task Force created a smaller "working group" consisting of selected representatives from DPH, DRP, DPW, County Counsel, and the CEO to proceed on the groundwork necessary to carry out the hauled water environmental review consultant selection process.

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On May 29, 2013, the Task Force/Working Group conducted the pre-proposers conference with participating environmental consultants to discuss the proposer's hauled water environmental review, evaluation, and selection process. The participating firms' representatives were appreciative of the briefing and the opportunity to provide feedback in advance of the proposal submission process.

Over the next several weeks, the Task Force/Working Group anticipates finalizing updates to the work plan from the information collected by the participating environmental consultants on the consultant selection process, including clarification of the proposal requirements, the scope of work, and the proposal submission deadline. In concert with this process, the Task Force/Working Group will review and negotiate the proposals submitted by the environmental consultants. As noted in our December 10, 2012 status report, it is anticipated this process will take up to 60 days. Upon successful negotiation with the most qualified proposer, the Task Force/Working Group will proceed to engage the consultant to begin the necessary work to prepare the Initial Study.

With regard to funding requirements for the preparation of the Initial Study, it is anticipated that approximately \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 will be necessary to retain a consultant to conduct the Initial Study and prepare the appropriate environmental review document. The CEO is continuing to work with the Task Force and departmental staff to identify various funding options necessary for the required consulting agreement, and will be addressed in the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Supplemental Budget.

It is estimated that a consultant would be selected and a contract awarded in 2013, and the Initial Study to be completed in 2014.

We will continue to provide the Board with a status report, as necessary. Upon the completion of the Initial Study, we will provide the Board with a report outlining the consultants' findings and recommendations.

If you have any questions on this matter, your staff may contact Arena Turner at (213) 974-1319, or <a href="mailto:aturner@ceo.lacounty.gov">aturner@ceo.lacounty.gov</a>.

WTF:RLR AMT:os

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Public Health Public Works Regional Planning